

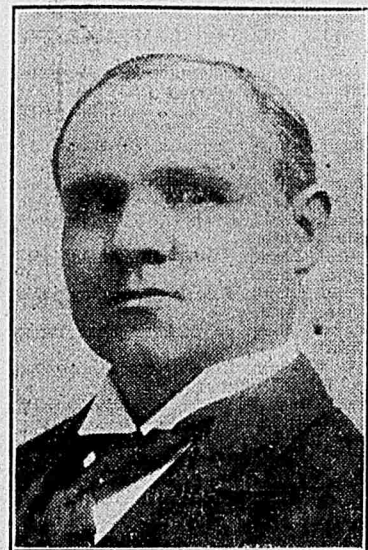
Public Museum to be Located on South Temple Street

A GREAT public museum for Salt Lake, whose air shall be scientific, not a gratifying curiosity for mere oddities, is on the tapis, and will be an actuality of the coming year.

The museum will not be wholly a new venture, but will be a reassembling of what once was a splendid institution, and as far ahead of the time of its original organization, as it again will lead the times of its recreation.

Old residents will recall the little adobe structure that once stood opposite the south gate of the Tabernacle grounds. Within it was the old canoe that the pioneers found on the shores of the Great Salt Lake suggesting the days of an earlier visit. Also there were specimens of the country's flora and fauna, a collection of coins, and mineral and geological specimens from the Great Basin. And in charge of them all, working contently for the collection's upbuilding, suffering as pioneer's of interest in science, have always suffered in a new country's opening was Prof. J. L. Barfoot, "professor" by the indulgence of his many admirers.

Barfoot now is gone. The little adobe building too is gone. The collection that he started, however, and grown beyond the scope of its founder's horizon. Where once stood the little adobe building facing the



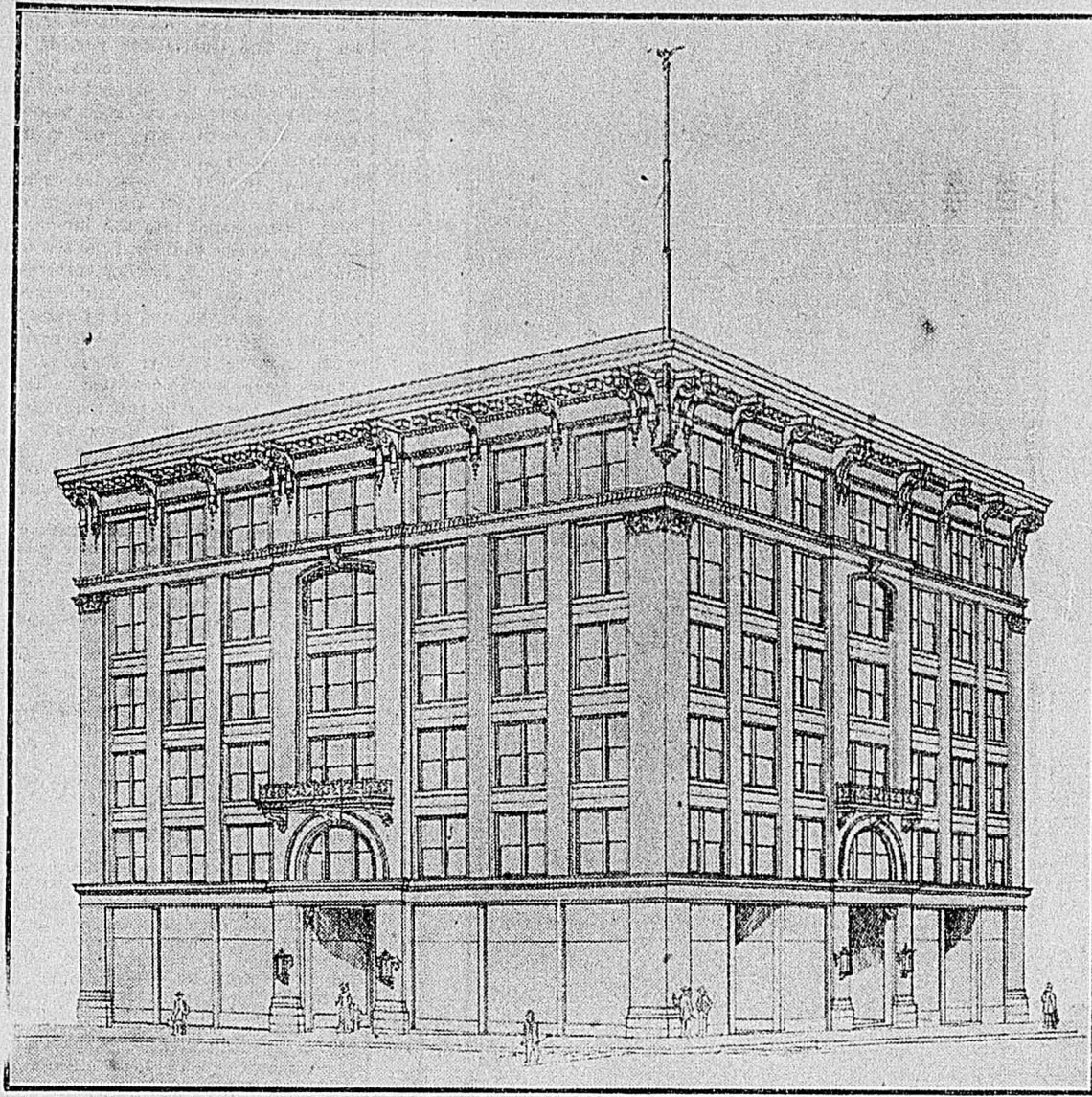
DR. JAMES E. TALMAGE.

Temple gates, is soon to stand a magnificent new structure, striking the tone of the cosmopolitan Salt Lake.

Within the new structure is to be housed again the collection that once was the admiration of thousands of tourists and students of the state. Passing from the hands of Barfoot into the custodianship of the Salt Lake Literary and Scientific society, the collection has played an important part in the educational history of Utah, and this romance of its development will find a fitting perpetuation in the permanent home that soon is to be provided.

WORLD FAMED CRYSTALS.

James E. Talmage, as the association's president and museum's curator was able, for instance, to make a distinctive impression upon the scientific world, and to introduce to it news of the world's largest geode, and of the most magnificent selenite crystals known. During its life, through efforts in its behalf the collection, after



VERMONT BUILDING.
The Future Home of Salt Lake's Public Museum.

passing from the old South Temple adobe home, turned up next in the Templeton building. Then it blossomed out as the owner of a home of its own on Forst North street, across the street south of the old University square, and one block east. Overtaken here by the purchase of this building for the University of Utah the collection fell upon evil days. The Salt Lake Literary and Scientific society lacked finances, and the collection went into storage in 1900.

Merely to box the goods, and to remove them to storage quarters cost over \$1,000. Sleeping somewhere in Salt Lake are the "mummified remains" of a group of San Juan county cliff dwellers, that comprise the second finest collection in the world of prehistoric American remains.

With them are the remarkable crystals that made the museum famous. Awaiting the day of the museum's possible re-establishment, Dr. Talmage has continued to secure collections, and to prepare for a reopening that would be on a scale appropriate for the new Salt Lake.

NEW HOME FOR MUSEUM.

The opportunity came with the announcement that the Church was about to build on the Richard's street corner, where stood the collection's original

home. A whole floor of this new building, arranged especially to accommodate the museum, was asked for, and the request granted. The plans now call for this museum floor, and before the building emerges from the foundation state, the entire plan will have been decided upon.

An interesting incident is that which brought the museum distinction in the world. It has to do with the bringing of the scientific crystals to general scientific notice.

Everyone familiar with minerals knows a geode as a concentric concretion, with crystals lining the inner surface. Most of these shown in collections may be lifted with one hand, and average about the size of a baseball. Something of a poser among them would be a monstrous formation of this kind making a natural cave, and incasing crystals totalling over 50 tons in weight. Yet that was precisely the kind of a natural wonder that the receding quaternary lake waters left in the deserts of Wayne county.

STORY OF SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

Its original discoverers were sheepherders. Its scientific discoverer was James E. Talmage, through whose efforts the crystals became museum property not only in Utah but throughout the civilized world.

"The first I heard of the crystals,"

said Dr. Talmage when asked to detail the story of their discovery, "was when some cattlemen called at my office with samples of what they said was 'singing glass.' They were really samples of crystallized gypsum. After several cattle and sheepmen had called with their samples, I went to Wayne county to investigate.

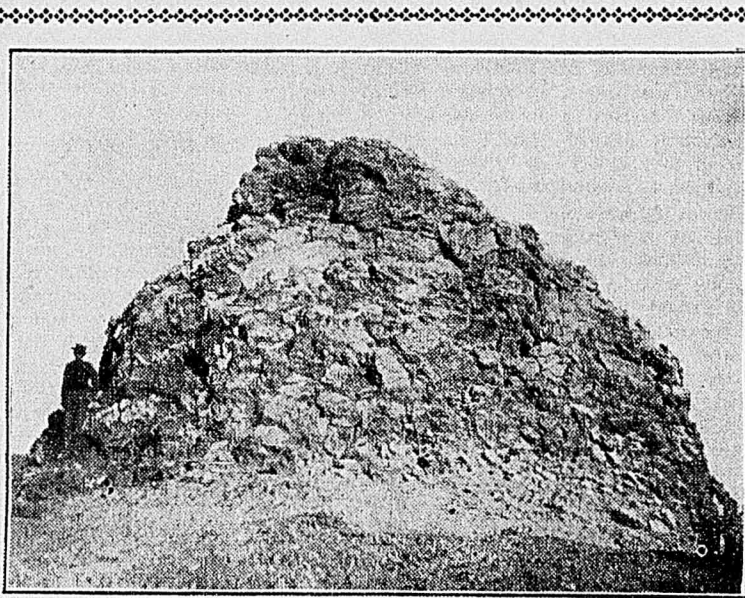
"There the crystals were found in gigantic size lining the interior of a monster geode which stood out like a mound in the desert.

"There were evidences of a shameful vandalism, for every passing cowboy had seemed to feel it his duty to carve his name in the crystals, and to break off chunks to carry away with him. It was because of this vandalism that a determination was made to remove the crystals to Salt Lake.

"Fifty tons of them thus came into the museum's possession. It still has a considerable quantity. Samples were sent to the museums at London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Paris, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Berlin, Vienna, Moscow, and St. Petersburg, besides the principal museums in the United States. Dr. Talmage himself carried the specimens to these museums and installed them. While they were presented with the compliments of the Utah museum, material was sent back in return which has more than compensated the Utah institution for all the time and means consumed, and has materially extended the scope of the Utah collection. Sixteen years ago these Utah crystals had the whole scientific press agog with discussion and description. At that time the Utah museum—styled the Deseret Museum—secured membership in the Museum Association of the world, with headquarters in Great Britain. Later when the American museum association was formed, Dr. Talmage attended the meeting, at which the organization was perfected, and took an active part in getting it under way. The Utah museum is now a member of both organizations.

PREHISTORIC REMAINS.

The collection of most note, outside of the crystals, is that of the San Juan



GEODE OF SELENITE, WAYNE COUNTY, UTAH.

Several of these geodes have been exposed through erosion in the Triassic deposits of the region named. Huge prisms and groups of crystals have been obtained from such. The geode shown above has not yet been opened. The exposed portion measures 150 feet in circumference at the base, and 36 feet in height.



GROUP OF MUMMIFIED BODIES.
From the Collection Owned by the Deseret Museum.

county of prehistoric remains. Only the Smithsonian institute has a collection that is more complete. This one in Utah was obtained through a trip to the San Juan country in which Dr. Talmage found, after arrival, that the most expeditious way to proceed was to employ men already in the country. Accordingly he secured the services of Charles Lang and Platto D. Lyman, the actual collectors of the specimens, which were secured at a cost of over \$2,000.

The museum movement originally was intended to include a menagerie as well as a museum for the preservation of Wasatch fauna. This feature dwindled, however, except as to the securing of stuffed specimens. A number of these have now been loaned the State Fair association, and are in its Third South street headquarters, awaiting the day of the museum's entering its new home.

COLLECTION OF COINS.

It is now eight years since the museum went into storage. Its coin collection at that time was placed in a safety deposit box, after an inventory had been made, showing it to have a

value of \$7,500. Its other belongings were stored in various localities. Recently there was purchased a valuable collection of materials illustrative of the life of the Pacific islanders. Within the month an extensive private collection of minerals has been added through donation.

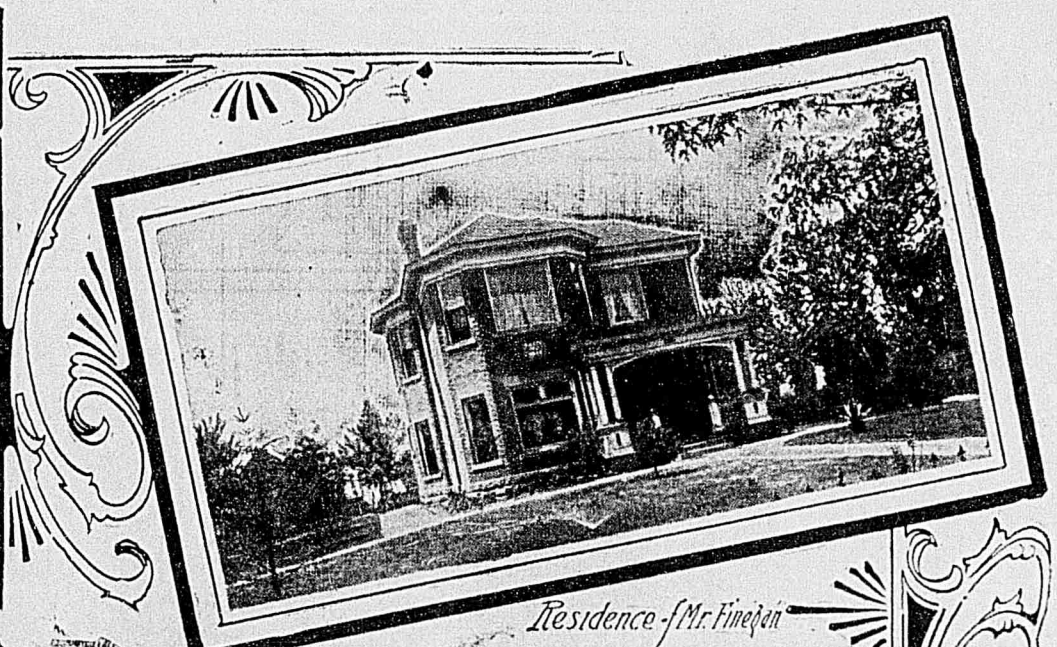
Besides these materials from the scientific field there are many relics of extreme value to the Church, recalling important moments in its history. These relics, with the others, are being carefully preserved, and will be made a part of the new museum when it is opened upon the completion of the new South Temple business block.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Librarian's Report Shows it Contains 1,158,008 Volumes.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The Librarian of Congress in his annual report made public today states that the number of the volumes in the library at the close of the past fiscal year numbered 1,158,008, a net gain of 101,180 over the previous year.

DOES A POULTRY FARM PAY



Chicken Runs, Brooder House and Incubator House.

This is best told by the actual experience of Mr. Phillip Finegan, proprietor of the ROSE VILLA POULTRY FARM, 2450 South Third East St., Salt Lake.

Mr. Finegan started the business nine years ago, his only asset being 37 chickens and abounding faith that he would succeed. Speaking of that humble beginning, Mr. Finegan assured the writer that the biggest thing on the

place was a "heavy mortgage." "From small beginnings, come great results." The farm has seen the birth of 110,000 chickens, 40,000 ducks. "I would not advise anyone to go into the duck business in this part of the country," said Mr. Finegan, "as feed is high and ducks are extravagant eaters. We have 700 laying hens, 400 of these are pullets, which lay on an average 25 eggs per month, and we get 60¢ a dozen, but cannot begin to supply the demand. There is room for 200

more poultry men in the state. People drive to our house, offer 60¢ a dozen, but we have to refuse, as our customers are depending upon us." "We have raised every breed of chicken. After this year we will hatch only Rhode Island Reds. They are the best all around fowl we ever had on the place. When dressed they look like creamery butter. After this year all our hens will have a laying record of 220 eggs per year. We call them our mortgage raisers; a good

laying strain of Reds will lay 10 dozen eggs a year, which will average in this city 35¢ the year round, making each hen bring in \$3.50 a year." "We ship eggs for hatching and chickens for breeding all over this western country. Every year we ship eggs and chickens to California, where they have 800 poultry farms, and we have customers in four different provinces of Canada." "This state sends hundreds of thousands of dollars to Kansas and Nebraska

each year for chickens and eggs; this we should keep at home, and in addition we ought to help supply Idaho and Nevada." The accompanying cuts give but a faint idea of the prosperous condition of the "Rose Villa Poultry Farm," and is surely an answer as to whether the poultry business pays or not. It would be advisable to call on Mr. Finegan; you will find him only too willing to explain the business and show you its workings in every detail.

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